



The OSCILLATOR

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Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club



"MY TWO CENTS" Pat Roberson

Greetings everyone...

The weird weather continues as it is a day away from March and they are predicting snow. It's been a long time since I've seen it snow in March. This means there is still time to go out and work on your antenna before the summer heat gets here! (Just kidding).

We had a great program in February from the Mountain Wave Search and Rescue organization. Three or four of their members joined our club. I am looking forward to seeing them at our meetings. Mountain Wave and OTVARC have entered into an agreement where Mountain Wave may use our 146.96 repeater for search and rescue missions and planned training exercises. If you hear them operating on our repeater, please yield to them as someone's life could be at stake.

The Board of Directors voted to hold the 2012 Holiday party at our normal meeting spot on Thursday December 13th, the second Thursday rather than our normal meeting date of the third Thursdays. Warren and Barb Winner will host again. Dinner will be a buffet style.

See TWO CENTS, Page 4

DX-PEDITIONS Part 6: J6 DXpedition (St. Lucia)

Joe Kelly N7BF has prepared a series of articles on DX-peditions. The series is running monthly.

Lasttime, we discussed two types of realistic DXpedition options, the Buddipole and the MicroLite. Now, I'll provide a summary of my Buddipole DXpedition to St. Lucia (J6) in the Caribbean. The trip occurred between Dec. 3-12, 2011 and was comprised of 8 hams, each of whom was from a different state and all had different skill levels. We received our J6 licenses in September for a total cost of \$20. I packed my 857D, a power supply, a solar panel, and my Buddipole in a carry-on case and flew from PDX to MIA, and overnighted before flying to J6. All flights were B-757 on American Airlines. Everyone was responsible for getting to St. Lucia and all but one was on the same MIA-J6 flight. Upon arrival we cleared customs without problems and were transported from the south end of the island to the north by a large van. J6, like England, is a RHD country so it took a few minutes to get used to driving on the "other side." Our QTH was a 6,000+ sq ft villa,

See DX-peditions, Page 4

CLUB MONTHLY MEETING Thursday, March 15th

The February Club Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 16th at Community Building, Sunset Presbyterian Church, 14986 NW Cornell Rd, just off US 26 (Exit 65) in Beaverton. The Meeting begins at 7:00 pm.

The March program features Dennis Belles WA7DRO with Amateur Television and ATV Repeaters in Oregon.

The atmosphere at our Club Meetings is casual. This is a good time to get to know another ham and extend the ring of friendship. Guests are always welcome. No Amateur Radio License is required.

OTVARC is affiliated with ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio and is a Special Service Club. Check the map at: tinyurl.com/otvarc-site
Questions? otvarc@gmail.com

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WRC 12 REPORT

The World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 (WRC-12) concluded deliberations February 17th in Geneva. The signing of the Final Acts that revise the Radio Regulations, the international treaty governing the use of radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits involved 153 nations. Three thousand participants, representing 165 of ITU's 193 Member States attended the four-week Conference. More than a hundred observers from among ITU's 700 private sector members attended WRC-12. Chairman Tariq Al Awadhi said, "The Conference set out to tackle very complex issues related to radiocommunications and I am delighted that after four weeks of sometimes difficult negotiations we have arrived at consensus that will shape the way we communicate in the future."



WRC-12 addressed 30 agenda items related to frequency allocation and sharing for the efficient use of spectrum and orbital resources. The goal is to ensure high quality radiocommunication services for mobile and satellite communications, maritime and aeronautical transport as well as for scientific purposes related to the environment, meteorology and climatology, disaster prediction, mitigation and relief.

WRC-12 adopted the relevant protection levels for interference caused by oceanographic radars. These radars operate using ground-waves that propagate over the sea to measure coastal sea surface conditions in support of environmental, oceanographic, meteorological, climatological, maritime and disaster mitigation operations and for the surveillance of coastal pollution, fisheries management, search and rescue, beach erosion, and maritime navigation.

The suppression of the leap second would make continuous time scale available for all the modern electronic navigation and computerized systems to operate with and eliminate the need for specialized ad hoc time systems.

This however may have social and legal consequences when the accumulated difference between UT1 – Earth rotation time – would reach a perceivable level (2 to 3 minutes in 2100 and about 30 minutes in 2700). The decision to defer the development of a continuous time standard in order to address the concerns of countries that use the current system of the leap second in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). This is being placed on the WRC-15 agenda.

WRC-12 delegates approved an Amateur Radio-related agenda item for WRC-15: To consider the possibility of making an allocation of an appropriate amount of spectrum, not necessarily contiguous, to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis within the band 5250-5450 kHz. This will be Agenda Item 1.4 at WRC-15.

Delegates approved a new 7-kilohertz-wide secondary allocation between 472-479 kHz for the Amateur Radio Service. Agenda Item 1.23 had first and second readings in Plenary Session on Tuesday, February 14; to become part of the ITU's Radio Regulations. The new allocation will not take effect until it is entered into the Radio Regulations. No date has been set. It is unlikely to be earlier than January 1, 2013. No amateur can use the band until their national regulations are revised to implement the allocation.

Some amateur radio participants have expressed unhappiness with a 7 KHz allocation when 15 KHz had been proposed. Insiders at Geneva saw this allocation as a salute to amateurs who had fared poorly in WRC-07.

A number of WRC-12 delegates are radio amateurs, with many of them operating at 4U1ITU, the Amateur Radio station at ITU Headquarters. The station has been using the call sign 4U1WRC throughout the duration of the Conference.

SEA-PAC 30



Michael Barratt KD5MIJ

Dr. Michael Barratt will be our 30th Anniversary Banquet Speaker. Michael's hometown is Camas, Washington and he graduated from Camas High School. He received his MS degree in Zoology from the University of Washington (where he was Phi Beta Kappa) and his MD from Northwestern.

He flew to the ISS on Soyuz TMA-14 in 2009, and served as a member of Expeditions 19 and 20. Last year he was on STS-133 (February and March), the 39th and final mission for Space Shuttle Discovery. Now he manages the Human Research Program at NASA Johnson Space Center.

The 30th Anniversary SEA-PAC Banquet will be held on Saturday, June 2 in the Seaside Convention Center. Tickets are available now, with a limit of 400 participants.

SEA-PAC 30 will be held in the Seaside Convention Center, Seaside, Oregon, June 1 - 3, 2012. This is the 30th Year of the Convention, and promises to be filled with CELEBRATION. Register online at:

<http://seapac.org/registration/registration.php>

2012 ELECTION NEWS

Are you sick of debates by potential candidates for office? Well, that's ANOTHER election. This election will fill seven of the nine positions on the OTVARC Board of Directors. We'll elect four officers and three trustees following our April 19th Club Meeting. Officers serve one-year terms, trustees for two-years. There are no term limits.

All current officers (Pat Roberson W7PAT; Herb Hirst K7HLH; Everett Curry W6ABM; and Warren Winner W7JDT along with Trustees Ron O'Connor KD7VIK, JD Fort K7JDF and Phil Kane K2ASP complete their current terms at the May 17th Meeting. Wes Allen K7WWG and Alvin Carlson KB7VHI continue on the Board. This election will fill the seven positions being vacated.

Warren Winner W7JDT has been appointed to The Election Committee by the Board of Directors. Jim Schaeffer KA7ADH and Kristen Tomson K7KWT serve with him.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL



OOPS!

You missed the January 31st Club Membership Renewal date. What to do?!?

Go to:

www.otvarc.org/MembershipRenewal.htm

Print Out The Renewal Form
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OTVARC

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TWO CENTS, from Page 1

Everett W6ABM will be arranging entertainment again.

Plans continue for a Special Events Station at Sea-Pac and Field Day. Everything is looking great so far, and I'm sure Ron KD7VIK could use more volunteers. 73 for this month see you at the meeting March 16.

Pat Roberson, W7PAT
President, OTVARC

The cost was low, the QTH was superb, the fellow hams were great individuals and all had a good sense of humor, the Buddipoles worked great, the bands were open, I learned a lot, and I now have completed a "bucket list" goal. Would I do this again? Without a hesitation; and I hope to do one or two Buddipole DXpeditions in 2012. I will present a detailed description of my J6 trip at an OTVARC meeting, when my schedule permits. I hope that you are inspired to try a Buddipole DXpedition. I will help you in any reasonable way possible.

DXpedition, from Page 1

with multiple patio decks, a swimming pool, pool table, wi-fi, flat screens and HVAC in every bedroom, and spacious living areas. The villa came with a 7-passanger van and because of my experience with RHD, I was the designated driver.

The meal plan included four catered dinners, one dinner in town, and the rest of the dinners were prepared by us and were simple, like BBQ burgers, pasta, etc. The breakfasts and lunches were prepared by each person for himself and included bacon & eggs, pancakes, cereal, fruit, sandwiches, salads, etc. We had ample supplies of coffee, soft drinks, milk, juice, beer, wine and bottled water. All food supplies were purchased in town and costs were divided equally by all.

We set up ten Buddipoles in every imaginable configuration (verticals, di-poles, yagis, etc.) for specific bands and each coax coming from an antenna was labeled for easy identification. The stations were set up all over the property (inside, on different decks, gazebos, wet bars, etc.) and each ham set up his own rig and band filter. Antennas were used on a first come basis, but everyone shared time on popular bands with others. We made contacts on 160-10M and all modes (SSB, CW, digital, FM).

There was no pressure to perform to any expectation. The Buddipole philosophy is simple; have fun and enjoy the hobby as you choose. Our group had one operator who wanted to set records and one operator who could care less, with the majority of us in between those two. My personal approach was to log about 50 QSOs then go for a swim, or have a beer, or drive to town, or take a radio and head off to operate from a remote cliff or beach. Then get back on the rig and get another 50 QSOs and repeat my relaxed approach to life.

It was easy to be very content with 85 degree weather, a slight tropical breeze, a nice swimming pool, cool drinks at hand, and great operators to share stories with. We did get serious for the 10M contest that occurred during our stay on J6.

HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS**20 - 22 APRIL 2012****63rd Annual Int'l DX Convention****Southern California DX Club****The Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center
Visalia, California****The Hotel is accepting reservations NOW****Online Convention Registration Open****www.dxconvention.org/index.html****1 - 3 JUNE 2012****30TH ANNUAL SEA-PAC CONVENTION****NW Division ARRL Convention****Seaside Convention Center****Seaside Oregon****Online Registration Now Open at:****seapac.org/registration/registration.php****C. Wayne Schuler AI9Q****16414 NE 21st Street****Vancouver, WA 98684****360.892.5580****ai9q@arrl.net****3 - 5 August 3-5, 2012****57th Annual Pacific Northwest****DX Convention****Monarch Hotel****Clackamas, Oregon****Willamette Valley DX Club****wvdx.org/dotnetnuke**

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1	WA7GFS	Richard Cross
1	KE7WKM	Lynn Burrell
2	K7JDF	J.D. Fort
2	N8SQT	Bob Recny
6	KA7KBH	Gene Buell
7	W6ABM	Everett Curry
10	KZ7T	Randy Stimson
11	W7JDT	Warren Winner
12	K7VDQ	Ray Deeth
12	W7FBP	Dale LeBarron
17	W7PAT	Patrick Roberson
19	W17O	Will Hobbs
20	WN7O	Robert Crocker
22	W7SIC	Al Berg
23	N7BF	Joe Kelly
24	KB7YVN	Ray Casey Jr
27	K7VMN	Ron Kinder
28	W7ACD	Arch Doty
30	KF7PDH	Lindy Robertson

Did we miss your birthday? Perhaps we don't have it in our list. Drop a note to:

otvarc@gmail.com**MARCH LUNCH BUNCH****Saturday, March 24th****at 1:30 PM****Honey Baked Ham****11657 SW Beaverton Hillsdale Highway****Beaverton, Oregon 97005****503.646.4446****Across Parking Lot from Fred Meyer****Talk In: 147.54 MHz Simplex****Questions? Linda KC7YTD****kc7ytd@gmail.com****503.372.6286**

**March 8th TERAC program on the new
Tektronix Time Domain oscilloscope
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presentation...terac.org**

CLUB MEETING
MARCH 15TH

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www.seapac.org

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